

REMARKS

The above amendments and following remarks are submitted as a Preliminary Amendment accompanying a Request for Continued Examination in response to the Final Official Action of the Examiner mailed May 2, 2003 and Advisory Action (i.e., Paper No. 8) mailed July 18, 2003. Having addressed all objections and grounds of rejection, claims 1-20, being all the pending claims, are now deemed in condition for allowance. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration to that end is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has previously rejected and finally rejected all pending originally presented claims (i.e., claims 1-20) on prior art using U.S. Patent No. 5,276,848, issued to Gallagher et al (hereinafter referred to as "Gallagher") as the primary reference. Applicants have respectfully traversed these rejections on two different occasions.

The Examiner has kindly taken the time in his Advisory Action (i.e., Paper No. 8) to more completely explain his interpretation of the pending claims. Applicants wish to express their gratitude for this assistance by the Examiner. Though Applicants disagree with the Examiner's interpretation of the

claimed limitations, "responsively coupled" and "first and second flush buffers", this disagreement is deemed of no practical moment. The amendments made above, though thought to be more limiting by the Examiner, are not deemed to be further limiting by Applicants. As a result, the Examiner's professional response to this prosecution has benefitted both parties and has greatly simplified further prosecution. Again, Applicants wish to express their appreciation for the Examiner's efforts.


Having thus responded to each objection and ground of rejection, Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment and allowance of claims 1-20, being the only pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald C. Englin et al

By their attorney,

Date August 29, 2003


John L. Rooney
Reg. No. 28,898
Suite 401
Broadway Place East
3433 Broadway Street N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota
55413
(612) 331-1464